



2023-2024

MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Volleyball

A. Varsity Matches for the Dual Meet Season:

1. Length of Sets: (Rule 1-2-1). A team that has scored 25 points rally scored and is at least 2 points ahead is the winner. If the leading team does not have a 2-point advantage, play shall continue until one team has a 2-point advantage.
2. Length of Match: (Rule 1-2-1). A match consists of the best three-out-of-five sets. The fourth and/or fifth set shall not be played unless it is necessary to determine the winner of the match. If a fifth and deciding set is played, a team scoring 15 points and is at least 2 points ahead is the winner.
3. The Ball (Rule 3-2-1): In all varsity contests the use of the three-colored panel volleyball in grey/blue, white is required. Sub-varsity may utilize the three-colored panel ball or solid white volleyball.

B. Sub-varsity Matches and Invitational Tournaments:

Sub-varsity matches and invitational tournaments shall be best of three sets rally scored to 25 points (no cap) and the third set played to 15 points (no cap).

In sub-varsity and invitational tournaments, a match consists of the best two-out-of-three sets rally scored to 25 points (no cap).

PLEASE NOTE: If a team wins a sub-varsity match in 2 sets, the competing schools may elect to play the third set. If the third set is played, game officials and contest personnel (scorers, timers, etc.) must be present and the set must be counted as one of the five (5) sets per day permitted for individual players. The third set shall not be played if contest personnel (scorers, timers, etc.) are not available.

If schools elect not to play the third set but elect to conduct a scrimmage during the available time prior to the next match, the scrimmage must adhere to Bylaw 411, Scheduling of Contests, Game Definition.

Schools should decide prior to a sub-varsity match whether they will play a third set or conduct a scrimmage and notify the game officials and contest personnel. If both coaches cannot agree, the third game cannot be played.

The schedule of matches should respect the contracted times of the match officials.

Non-League Tournaments – Rally Scoring must be used.

In non-league tournaments, teams may compete in a maximum of 15 sets per day. A minimum of 2 sets rally scored to 25 must be played with each opponent. Match play (2 out of 3) may also be used. If teams play only 2 sets with an opponent, the winner of the match will be decided by the following criteria.

1. A team winning both sets shall be declared the winner.
2. If a team has split the games with one win and one loss, the winner shall be declared using one of these criteria:
 - a) one team has scored more total points (2-games total) than the other team
 - b) if both teams have scored the same total points there are two options:
 1. Continue play in set 2 until one team has scored a total of 2 more points than the other team or
 2. Play a 5-point set to determine the winner.

Match Protocol

- ### A. BENCHES:
- During the regular season, teams will not switch sides. Home team will choose their side.

- B. COIN FLIP:** Pre-game captain's meeting will determine Serve or Serve Receive by coin toss.
- C. WARM UP PERIOD:**
Directed by the second referee. Timed by the timer on a visible scoreboard and second referee on stopwatch. 20 minutes of warm-up:
- 4 minutes shared court time
 - 6 minutes of **warm-up** by visiting team
 - 6 minutes of **warm-up** by home team
 - 2 minutes of **exclusive warm-up** by visiting team
 - 2 minutes of **exclusive warm-up** by home team
- Space needs to be provided for the other team during the six-minute court time periods.
- D. INTRODUCTIONS:** First Referee and L1 stand on sideline near officials stand (facing benches) with first referee standing closest to net. Second Referee and L2 stand on sideline near bench (facing court on opposite side of net from First Referee) with Second Referee standing closest to net. During the playing of the anthem and introductions, line judges will stand without flags - L1 places flag on referee stand and L2 on scorer's table.
1. First Referee whistles both teams to their respective end lines, teams remain on their respective end line until number '4'. Coaches remain in the team bench area.
 2. National Anthem is played.
 3. Announcer introduces visiting reserves, starters, and coaches; followed by home team reserves, starters, and coaches.
 4. First Referee whistles and signals:
 - a) The starting players to immediately take the court to begin the match.
 - b) The remaining team members (including libero) will proceed to the team bench area.
 5. Officials and line judges assume their match positions.
 6. For sets 2 through 5, players report directly to the playing court.
- E. BEGINNING OF FIRST SET IN THE MATCH:** First Referee on stand and Second Referee by scoring table:
1. First Referee signals starters to the end line.
 2. First Referee whistles and signals players onto court (arms extended in front, bring palms together over net).
 3. For sets two through five, players report directly to the playing court.
- F. END OF SET:** First Referee whistles and signals players to their respective benches.
1. Non-Deciding Set - First Referee whistles and signals players the end of set and directs players to their team benches.
 2. Deciding Set
 - a) The First Referee, whistles, signals end of set and directs players to their team benches.
 - b) The Second Referee double whistles and raise coin in air to signal the captains to go near the officials table for deciding set coin toss. (Home team calls the toss).
 - c) The Second Referee communicates results to the First Referee extending an outstretched arm on the side of the team to serve first and giving the appropriate signal indicating if teams remain on their current side or change.
 - d) The First Referee whistles to start the 3-minute clock between sets.
 - e) The Second Referee verifies the 3-minute clock has started.
- G. END OF MATCH:**
1. First Referee whistles, gives the end-of-set signal and whistles and signals the teams to shake hands at net.
 2. The Second Referee verifies the score by initialing the score sheet. Match becomes official when the score sheet is initialed.
 3. The officials leave the confines of the gymnasium together.
- H. PROTOCOL FOR INTRODUCTION OF TEAMS DURING TOURNAMENTS AND RECOMMENDED FOR SUB- VARSITY MATCHES.**

1. First Referee on the stand and Second Referee by scoring table:
2. First Referee signals starters to the end line.
3. First Referee whistles and signals players onto court (arms extended in front, bring palms together over net).
4. For remaining sets, players report directly to the playing court.

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